

HUGHES

Application No. 09/623,977

January 5, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the abstract in its entirety and substitute in its place the new abstract attached hereto on a separate page.

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ABSTRACT

TELECONFERENCING SYSTEM

67 A teleconferencing system comprises a conference bridge having a multichannel connection to each customer equipment. The customer equipment has a unit to separately process each channel to provide one output representing each of the other participants.

These outputs can be combined in a spatialiser to provide a spatialised output in which each participant is represented by a virtual sound source. The conference bridge comprises a concentrator, having a unit to identify the currently active input channels and to transmit only those active channels over the multichannel connection, together with control information identifying the transmitted channels.